

a.) Amendment to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A retroreflective article comprising plural triangular-pyramidal cube-corner retroreflective element pairs formed of parallel V-shaped groove groups (x, x, x,..., y, y, y,..., and z, z, z,...) from three directions of x direction, y direction, and z direction and set on a common plane (S-S') defined by base line groups of the parallel V-shaped groove groups, in which

(I) one-side groove angle (GLx, GRx, GLy, GRy, GLz, or GRz) formed between a cross line between (i) a plane vertical to the common plane (S-S') and to a V-groove vertical plane (Svx, Svy, or Svz) which includes the base line of a V-shaped groove and is vertical to the common plane (S-S'), and a reflective lateral face (a1, b1, c1, a2, b2, or c2) containing the base line of the V-shaped groove and (ii) the V-groove vertical plane does not form a constant angle in the reflective lateral face but at least one of the lateral faces does not form a plane, and

(II) at least one of said parallel V-shaped groove groups comprises a V-shaped groove angle in which a one-side groove angle (GL or GR) continuously changes in a horizontally-symmetric state (GL=GR), said one-side groove angle does not form a constant angle in the reflective lateral face, and the reflective lateral face forms a curved and/or multiple surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The retroreflective article according to claim 1, wherein at least one reflective lateral face for constituting the triangular-pyramidal cube-

corner retroreflective element pairs, the one-side groove angle (GLx, GRx, GLy, GRy, or GRz, or GRz) does not form a constant angle with the maximum deviation of 0.0001 to 0.1° from a normal one-side groove angle for forming a cube corner and a reflective lateral face forms a curved and/or multiple surface.

3. (Currently Amended) A retroreflective article according to ~~claim 1 or 2; claims 1, 2 or 22~~, wherein the internal angle of one of bottom-plane triangles formed of three bottom planes constituting the reflective elements ranges between 35 and 75°.

4. (Previously Presented) The retroreflective article according to claim 3, wherein the internal angle of one of bottom-plane triangles formed of three base lines constituting the reflective elements ranges between 45 and 70°.

5. (Previously Presented) The retroreflective article according to claim 4, wherein the depth of a plane (Sx, Sy, or Sz) formed by the base line group of at least one-directional V-shaped groove constituting the reflective elements is different from the depth of other planes.

6. (Previously Presented) The retroreflective article according to claim 5, wherein an x-directional V-shaped groove constituting the reflective elements does not

pass through the intersects (A and B) of y- and z-directional V-shaped grooves and is formed at a position having an offset (Δx) from a straight line connecting intersects A and B, the triangular-pyramidal cube-corner retroreflective element pairs are asymmetric pairs.

Claims 7-20 (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) A retroreflective article, ~~said retroreflective article comprising:~~ (i) plural triangular-pyramidal cube-corner retroreflective element pairs formed of parallel V-shaped groove groups (x, x, x,..., y, y, y,..., and z, z, z,...) from three directions of x direction, y direction, and z direction and set on a common plane (S-S') defined by base line groups of the parallel V-shaped groove groups, in which

(I) one-side groove angle (GLx, GRx, GLy, GRy, GLz, or GRz) formed between a cross line between (i) a plane vertical to the common plane (S-S') and to a V-groove vertical plane (Svx, Svy, or Svz) which includes the base line of a V-shaped groove and is vertical to the common plane (S-S'), and a reflective lateral face (a1, b1, c1, a2, b2, or c2) containing the base line of the V-shaped groove and (ii) the V-groove vertical plane does not form a constant angle in the reflective lateral face but at least one of the lateral faces does not form a plane, or

~~(ii) plural triangular pyramidal cube corner retroreflective element pairs formed of V-shaped groove groups (x, x, x,..., y, y, y,..., and z, z, z,...) arranged at equal intervals from three directions and set on a common plane (S-S') defined by base line~~

~~groups of the V-shaped groove groups, in which the base line constituting any directional V-shaped groove in the retroreflective element pairs is a nonlinear base line which does not form a linear trajectory and the reflective lateral face formed of the V-shaped groove forms a curved and/or multiple surface, and~~

(II) at least one of said parallel V-shaped groove groups comprises a V-shaped groove in which a one-side groove angle (GL or GR) continuously changes in a horizontally-asymmetric state, said one-side groove angle does not form a constant angle in the reflective lateral face, and the reflective lateral face forms a curved and/or multiple surface.

22. (New) The retroreflective article of claim 1, wherein said V-shaped groove in which a one-side groove angle continuously changes in a horizontally-symmetric state has a curved shape.

23. (New) The retroreflective article according to claim 21, wherein at least one reflective lateral face for constituting the triangular-pyramidal cube-corner retroreflective element pairs, the one-side groove angle (GLx, GRx, GLy, GRy, GRz, or GRz) does not form a constant angle with the maximum deviation of 0.0001 to 0.1° from a normal one-side groove angle for forming a cube corner and a reflective lateral face forms a curved and/or multiple surface.

24. (New) A retroreflective article according to claims 21 or 23, wherein the internal angle of one of bottom-plane triangles formed of three bottom planes constituting the reflective elements ranges between 35 and 75°.

25. (New) The retroreflective article according to claim 24, wherein the internal angle of one of bottom-plane triangles formed of three base lines constituting the reflective elements ranges between 45 and 70°.

26. (New) The retroreflective article according to claim 25, wherein the depth of a plane (S_x, S_y, or S_z) formed by the base line group of at least one-directional V-shaped groove constituting the reflective elements is different from the depth of other planes.

27. (New) The retroreflective article according to claim 26, wherein an x-directional V-shaped groove constituting the reflective elements does not pass through the intersects (A and B) of y- and z-directional V-shaped grooves and is formed at a position having an offset (Δx) from a straight line connecting intersects A and B, the triangular-pyramidal cube-corner retroreflective element pairs are asymmetric pairs.